


Saturday 17th October


ASCOT




1.20	QIPCO BRITISH CHAMPIONS LONG DISTANCE CUP (Group 2) (1) 1m7f209y (3210 Metres)
RACE 1	(7) STRADIVARIUS (IRE) (11) SEARCH FOR A SONG (IRE) (1) BROOME (IRE)
1.55	QIPCO BRITISH CHAMPIONS SPRINT STAKES (Group 1) (1) 6f (1210 Metres)
RACE 2	(7) OXTED (4) DREAM OF DREAMS (IRE) (13) STARMAN
2.30	QIPCO BRITISH CHAMPIONS FILLIES & MARES STAKES (Group 1) (1) 1m3f211y (2410 Metres)
RACE 3	(2) DAME MALLIOT (12) WONDERFUL TONIGHT (FR) (1) ANTONIA DE VEGA (IRE)
3.05	QUEEN ELIZABETH II STAKES (Sponsored by QIPCO) (Group 1) (1) 1m (1610 Metres) (Str.)
RACE 4	(12) PALACE PIER (9) THE REVENANT (2) CIRCUS MAXIMUS (IRE)
3.40	QIPCO CHAMPION STAKES (Group 1) (1) 1m1f212y (2000 Metres)
RACE 5	(8) MAGICAL (IRE) (5) LORD NORTH (IRE) (1) ADDEYBB (IRE)
4.15	BALMORAL HANDICAP (Sponsored by QIPCO) (2) 1m (1610 Metres) (Str.)
RACE 6	(7) BELL ROCK (16) RAAEQ (IRE) (9) NJORD (IRE)

KEY TO SYMBOLS

 **Top Rated:** The horse with the best chance based solely on past form, specially tailored to a 0-100 scale.

 **Horses For Courses:** A suitable track for the horse, compared to its lifetime record on similar courses as defined by Timeform's course data.

 **Jockey Uplift:** The engaged rider has a notably higher Timeform Jockey Ranking than those who've ridden the horse on its most recent starts

 **Trainer Form:** A hot trainer to follow, based on Timeform ratings-related measurements looking at the recent performance of runners.

1.20

QIPCO BRITISH CHAMPIONS LONG DISTANCE CUP (Group 2)
(1) 3yo+ £300,000 1m7f209y (3210 Metres)

RACE 1



Going: **Soft (Heavy in places)**

The round course is a right-handed, galloping, triangular circuit of a mile and three quarters, with a run-in of two and a half furlongs. Ascot also has a straight mile course, which tends to drain better than the round course. There is also an inner Flat course which allows the option of switching the round course races on Champions Day in the event of unraceable ground. Generally speaking, prominent racers fare significantly better than those held up over five furlongs, but the opposite is true over seven furlongs/a mile, while on the round course those that race in the first half of the field over a mile and a quarter have a better record than those caught further back.

Draw: **N/A** Pace Information: **Strong**

1 10 BROOME (IRE) (134) 94
 622/1146-4 4 9-7 | 60.3kg

Aidan O'Brien, Ireland **C. T. Keane**
 High-class 3-y-o who shaped as though better for run when fourth of 7 in Coronation Cup at Newmarket in June. Worth a try at this sort of trip, though it is a slight concern we haven't seen him since.

2 13 FUJAIIRA PRINCE (IRE) (34) (C) 92
 11/123-112 6 9-7 | 60.3kg

Roger Varian **Andrea Atzeni**
 Better than ever to land handicaps at Royal Ascot and Ebor at York. Good second in the Irish St Leger last time, but he wasn't as strong in the finish as winner so stamina not assured up to 2m now.

3 8 MILDENBERGER (23) (D, BF) 91
 363-31124 5 9-7 | 60.3kg

Mark Johnston **Franny Norton**
 Excellent second in the Sagaro Stakes at Newcastle in June but below expectations after four months off when last of four to Ranch Hand in a listed race at Newmarket. Has bit to find with principals.

4 7 MORANDO (FR) (35) (C) 92
 84821-742 7 9-7 | 60.3kg

Andrew Balding **Silvestre De Sousa**
 Has performed creditably in 3 runs this year without getting his ideal conditions. Step up to 2m should suit and the ground has come in his favour so he's no forlorn hope.

5 4 SOVEREIGN (IRE) (34) (BF) 92
 3/2301-326 4 9-7 | 60.3kg

Aidan O'Brien, Ireland **Ryan Moore**
 Sprung surprise in 2019 Irish Derby. Best run this year when 2nd in the King George here, but disappointed in the Irish St Leger last time. This trip should prove within his compass so shortlisted.

6 12 SPANISH MISSION (USA) (36) 91
 131-62611 4 9-7 | 60.3kg

Andrew Balding **William Buick**
 Made the most of good opportunity for new yard when winning Doncaster Cup last time, scoring with plenty in hand. This is much deeper, but he at least arrives in good form and goes on soft ground.

7 1 STRADIVARIUS (IRE) (13) (CD) 100
 112-31127 6 9-7 | 60.3kg

John Gosden **Frankie Dettori**
 Has led all before him in the British staying division since 2018 but not seen to best effect when seventh in the Arc (12f) last time. Sort to bounce back so very much the one to beat back up in trip.

8 11 TRUESHAN (FR) (36) 91
 1211-4181 4 9-7 | 60.3kg

Alan King **Hollie Doyle**
 Only respectable eighth in Ebor Handicap but back on track when winning 14f Salisbury conditions event with a fair bit in hand. Well worth trying at 2m and goes in the mud so holds place claims.

9 3 DUBIOUS AFFAIR (IRE) (37) 85
 421-11124 4 9-4 | 59.0kg

Charlie Fellowes **James Doyle**
 Three-time handicap winner in the summer and she recorded a career best to finish fourth in the Park Hill Stakes at Doncaster last time. Should stay 2m but this is a lot more demanding.

10 2 MONICA SHERIFF (14) 88
 11111-470 4 9-4 | 59.0kg

William Haggas **Tom Marquand**
 Shaped well after 10 months off when fourth in the Ebor at York but has gone backwards in two starts since, though, finishing well beaten in the Prix de Royallieu at Longchamp. Has it to prove now.

11 6 SEARCH FOR A SONG (IRE) (34) h 95
 2411-6P31 4 9-4 | 59.0kg

D. K. Weld, Ireland **Oisin Murphy**
 Did nothing but progress last year, winning the Irish St Leger, and returned to her best to win race again, holding Fujaira Prince by 2l. Likely to stay 2m and rates main danger to Stradivarius.

12 9 DAWN PATROL (IRE) (20) (D) 86
 4-231361 3 8-13 | 56.7kg

Aidan O'Brien, Ireland **Pierre-Charles Boudot**
 Smart colt who recorded excellent third in Irish Derby and arrives on back of win in Loughbrown Stakes at the Curragh on first try at 2m. Needs a lot more here but still unexposed over staying trips.

13 5 MAX VEGA (IRE) (14) 88
 211-5024 3 8-13 | 56.7kg

Ralph Beckett **Harry Bentley**
 Best run this year when 2nd in Geoffrey Freer Stakes in August. Well below form over 15f in the Prix Chaudenay at Longchamp last time so his stamina is far from assured up to 2m now.

13 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

6-4 Stradivarius, **11-2** Search For A Song, **11-1** Fujaira Prince, **14-1** Sovereign, **16-1** Broome, **16-1** Spanish Mission, **18-1** Dawn Patrol, **20-1** Morando, **22-1** Trueshan, **50-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

Staying-king STRADIVARIUS is much superior on form to his rivals and it will be disappointing if he doesn't resume winning ways returned to this longer trip after his failed attempt to land the Arc back at 12f. Irish St Leger winner Search For A Song looks the chief threat on her first start at 2m, while Broome is also not without a chance now tackling this distance for the first time.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. STRADIVARIUS (IRE) 2. SEARCH FOR A SONG (IRE) 3. BROOME (IRE)

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2019	Kew Gardens 4-9-7	7-2	Aidan O'Brien	Donnacha O'Brien	9
2018	Stradivarius 4-9-7	evsf	John Gosden	Frankie Dettori	6
2017	Order of St George 5-9-7	4-5f	Aidan O'Brien	Ryan Moore	13
2016	Sheikhzayedroad 7-9-7	11-1	David Simcock	Martin Harley	10
2015	Flying Officer 5-9-7	6-1	John Gosden	Frankie Dettori	13

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

1.55

QIPCO BRITISH CHAMPIONS SPRINT STAKES (Group 1) (1)
3yo+ £391,260 6f (1210 Metres)

RACE 2



Going: **Soft (Heavy in places)**

The round course is a right-handed, galloping, triangular circuit of a mile and three quarters, with a run-in of two and a half furlongs. Ascot also has a straight mile course, which tends to drain better than the round course. There is also an inner Flat course which allows the option of switching the round course races on Champions Day in the event of unraceable ground. Generally speaking, prominent racers fare significantly better than those held up over five furlongs, but the opposite is true over seven furlongs/a mile, while on the round course those that race in the first half of the field over a mile and a quarter have a better record than those caught further back.

Draw: **N/A** Pace Information: **Strong**

1	7	BRANDO (7) (D)	88
	44-526693	8 9-2 58.1kg	Tom Eaves
Kevin Ryan Smart sprinter, runner-up in Chipchase at Newcastle (6f) in June. However, not scaled same heights since and this regular in the race will do well to match last year's fourth-place finish.			
2	2	CAPE BYRON (364) (CD)	95
	27/110310-	6 9-2 58.1kg	Andrea Atzeni
Roger Varian Flopped in this race on final start last year but has a very good overall track record, winning 3 times last season, including a couple of high-end handicaps. This a tough contest to reappear in.			
3	3	CHIEFOFCHIEFS (36) (CD)	87
	9-6301746	7 9-2 58.1kg	William Buick
Charlie Fellowes Won the Silver Wokingham at Royal Ascot and shaped as if still in good form in a handicap at Doncaster last time, unable to sustain his effort after travelling well. This is a very big ask.			
4	16	DREAM OF DREAMS (IRE) (42) (D)	99
	12080-211	6 9-2 58.1kg	Oisin Murphy
Sir Michael Stoute Impressive winner of the Hungerford Stakes in August and confirmed he is better than ever when following up in the Sprint Cup at Haydock. Flopped in this a year ago but a different proposition now.			
5	9	GLEN SHIEL (42) (D)	96
	72012112	6 9-2 58.1kg	Hollie Doyle
Archie Watson Better than ever this year, winning 4 times, notably the Group 3 Phoenix Sprint Stakes at the Curragh in August. Excellent second to Dream of Dreams on first try in a Group 1 at Haydock last month.			
6	1	HAPPY POWER (IRE) (8) (D)	96
	56-324111	4 9-2 58.1kg	James Doyle
Andrew Balding Thriving at present, completing a hat-trick and better than ever in the process in the 7f Challenge Stakes at Newmarket on Friday. Rare try over 6f but he's not dismissed lightly in current mood.			
7	13	OXTED (98) (D)	100
	126421-11	4 9-2 58.1kg	Cieren Fallon
Roger Teal Landed the Portland on his final start last term and has taken his form to new level this year, supplementing his Abernant Stakes win in the July Cup. Entitled to serious respect. Has had a wind op.			
8	8	SPEAK IN COLOURS (56) (CD, BF)	94
	6-4251146	5 9-2 58.1kg	Jim Crowley
Joseph Patrick O'Brien, Ireland Smart performer who won the Greenlands Stakes at the Curragh in June and the Ballycorus Stakes at Fairyhouse in July. Well backed when disappointing in a listed race latest and this is a big ask.			
9	6	THE TIN MAN (7) (CD)	94
	6720-7262	8 9-2 58.1kg	Adam Kirby
James Fanshawe Has contested this race each year since 2015, notably winning it in 2016. On a long losing run, but would have given the winner more to think about with a clear run at York on Saturday.			
10	10	ART POWER (IRE) (42) (C, D)	95
	31-11164	3 9-1 57.6kg	Silvestre De Sousa
Tim Easterby Made it 4 in a row in impressive style in 6f Group 3 in Ireland before a below-par showing in the Nunthorpe. Looked more comfortable over 6f in the Sprint Cup but no excuses back in fourth.			

11	14	DUBAI STATION (78) (D)	89
	3300-1035	3 9-1 57.6kg	Daniel Tudhope
K. R. Burke Won the Pavilion Stakes at Newcastle in June but hasn't progressed markedly on that. Below form in the King George Stakes at Goodwood last time and has plenty to find with the principals.			
12	4	LOPE Y FERNANDEZ (IRE) (42) (D)	95
	316-30237	3 9-1 57.6kg	Ryan Moore
Aidan O'Brien, Ireland Very smart colt who has finished placed in the Irish 2000 Guineas (1m), Prix Jean Prat (7f) and Prix Maurice de Gheest (6½f). Failed to travel with usual zest in the Sprint Cup last time, though.			
13	17	STARMAN (41) (D)	97
	111	3 9-1 57.6kg	Tom Marquand
Ed Walker Unbeaten in 3 starts, looking a bona-fide Group 1 performer when winning a listed event at York from Dakota Gold last time. Has come a long way in a short space of time and limit hasn't been reached.			
14	11	ONE MASTER (13) (C, D)	97
	12-641221	6 8-13 56.7kg	Pierre-Charles Boudot
William Haggas Smart and consistent mare who was beaten a length in this race last year. Arrives in top form, winning the Oak Tree Stakes at Goodwood in July and landing the Prix de la Foret for a record third time.			
15	15	SONAIYLA (IRE) (34) (D)	93
	3901-1123	4 8-13 56.7kg	William James Lee
P. Twomey, Ireland Developed into a smart performer since joining this yard, winning her first 2 starts this year and nothing wrong with a brace of placed efforts since, including in Group 1 latest (5f).			
16	12	JOUSKA (7) (D)	87
	1453-7281	3 8-12 56.2kg	Rob Hornby
Henry Candy Useful filly who proved better than ever to win a listed event at Newmarket on Saturday, but will need to progress significantly again to mix it at this level.			
17	5	ONASSIS (IRE) (6) (C)	87
	51-141741	3 8-12 56.2kg	Hayley Turner
Charlie Fellowes Made a winning return in the 1m Sandringham at Royal Ascot and has since won listed races at Chantilly and Goodwood (a week ago). Likeable filly but this is asking a lot.			

17 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

2-1 Dream of Dreams, **13-2** One Master, **7-1** Oxted, **10-1** Starman, **16-1** Glen Shiel, **16-1** Art Power, **18-1** Lope Y Fernandez, **20-1** Cape Byron, **22-1** Happy Power, **28-1** Sonaiyla, **33-1** The Tin Man, **66-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

OXTED has yet to encounter ground as soft as this, but his July Cup win is just about the best form on offer, and at the forecast prices, he has to be the call. Dream of Dreams arrives in top form and these conditions will hold no fears so he's a massive threat, while Starman is the unknown quantity in the race as the ceiling of his ability has yet to be exposed given he's unbeaten.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. OXTED 2. DREAM OF DREAMS (IRE) 3. STARMAN

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2019	Donjuan Triumphant 6-9-2	33-1	Andrew Balding	Silvestre De Sousa	17
2018	Sands of Mali 3-9-1	28-1	Richard Fahey	Paul Hanagan	14
2017	Librisa Breeze 5-9-2	10-1	Dean Ivory	Robert Winston	12
2016	The Tin Man 4-9-2	13-2	James Fanshawe	Tom Queally	13
2015	Muhaarar 3-9-1	5-2f	Charles Hills	Paul Hanagan	20

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

2.30

RACE 3

QIPCO BRITISH CHAMPIONS FILLIES & MARES STAKES (Group 1) (1) 3yo+ fillies and mares £350,000 1m3f211y (2410 Metres)



Going: **Soft (Heavy in places)**

The round course is a right-handed, galloping, triangular circuit of a mile and three quarters, with a run-in of two and a half furlongs. Ascot also has a straight mile course, which tends to drain better than the round course. There is also an inner Flat course which allows the option of switching the round course races on Champions Day in the event of unraceable ground. Generally speaking, prominent racers fare significantly better than those held up over five furlongs, but the opposite is true over seven furlongs/a mile, while on the round course those that race in the first half of the field over a mile and a quarter have a better record than those caught further back.

Draw: **Favours High** Pace Information: **Strong**

1 11 ANTONIA DE VEGA (IRE) (22) (D) 98
118/164-11 **4** 9-5 | 59.4kg

Ralph Beckett **Harry Bentley**
Low mileage 4-y-o who wasn't seen to best effect when sixth in this last season. Winner of both her starts this term, notably Group 3 at Newmarket, looking better than ever. Well worth another shot.

2 4 DAME MALLIOT (34) (D) 100
1/2116-133 **4** 9-5 | 59.4kg

Ed Vaughan **Hollie Doyle**
Dual Group 2 winner who went close in a Group 1 in Germany before a good third in a strong renewal of the Prix Vermeille at Longchamp 5 weeks ago. Big player on that form and remains low mileage.

3 12 MANUELA DE VEGA (IRE) (14) (D) 98
2322-1140 **4** 9-5 | 59.4kg

Ralph Beckett **Rob Hornby**
Smart filly who made all in Group 3 at Haydock on return and had little trouble landing the odds in Lancashire Oaks there next time. However, struggled in Group 1s next 2 starts so looks vulnerable.

4 8 MEHDAAYIH (122) (D) 99
1171205-6 **4** 9-5 | 59.4kg

John Gosden **Frankie Dettori**
Did well last term, winning 3 times, including a Group 2 in France. Not disgraced in the Champion Stakes here last season and in the Prince of Wales's Stakes at Royal Ascot sole start this year.

5 7 CABALETTA (49) (D) 93
1-24122 **3** 8-13 | 56.7kg

Roger Varian **David Egan**
Listed winner at Newbury but put in her place in pattern events this season.

6 3 EVEN SO (IRE) (34) (D) 96
31-35116 **3** 8-13 | 56.7kg

G. M. Lyons, Ireland **C. T. Keane**
Improved as stamina has been drawn out, showing a good attitude to win a 1¼m listed race at Naas before decisively landing the Irish Oaks. Emphasis on speed was against her in Prix Vermeille since.

7 2 FRANKLY DARLING (58) (CD) 94
2-1135 **3** 8-13 | 56.7kg

John Gosden **Robert Havlin**
Quickly developed into a smart sort, impressing with the way in which she quickened away to land Ribblesdale at Royal Ascot. Struggled in Oaks and Yorkshire Oaks both starts since, however.

8 10 GOLD WAND (IRE) (34) (D) 94
2-17215 **3** 8-13 | 56.7kg

Roger Varian **Andrea Atzeni**
Produced best effort when winning listed race on first attempt at 1½m at York. Struggled back up in class at the Curragh (10f) since, however. Return to this trip will suit but improvement needed.

9 5 LABURNUM (IRE) (34) 96
124144 **3** 8-13 | 56.7kg

Aidan O'Brien, Ireland **James Doyle**
Only fourth behind Even So in Irish Oaks and Wonderful Tonight in Prix Minerve but improved to reverse form with those fillies when fourth in the Prix Vermeille. May want better ground, though.

10 6 PASSION (IRE) (14) 94
43533155 **3** 8-13 | 56.7kg

Aidan O'Brien, Ireland **Ryan Moore**
Has been kept busy this year and has shown smart form, including when getting off the mark for the campaign in a 1¼m Group 3 at Naas in August. Struggled to make an impact in Group 1s since, however.

11 1 THUNDERING NIGHTS (IRE) (34) 92
041-2113 **3** 8-13 | 56.7kg

Joseph Patrick O'Brien, Ireland **Tom Marquand**
Resumed progress when winning 9f Group 3 at the Curragh (heavy) and did best of those from off the pace when third in 10f Group 2 there next time. Should stay this far but needs to improve for it.

12 9 WONDERFUL TONIGHT (FR) (14) (D) 98
31-42151 **3** 8-13 | 56.7kg

David Menuisier **William Buick**
Progressive 3-y-o who made the Group 1 breakthrough in the Prix de Royallieu (1¼m) on Arc weekend. Testing conditions no problem and likely to make another bold bid if this doesn't come too soon.

12 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

4-1 Wonderful Tonight, 5-1 Dame Malliot, 11-2 Antonia De Vega, 13-2 Even So, 16-1 Mehdaayih, 16-1 Frankly Darling, 18-1 Gold Wand, 20-1 Laburnum, 20-1 Passion, 20-1 Thundering Nights, 22-1 Manuela De Vega, 50-1 bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

Three of these fillies met in a good renewal of the Prix Vermeille at Longchamp, with DAME MALLIOT faring best in third. She can hold sway again and land a first success at the highest level. Wonderful Tonight is another with strong claims on the back of her Prix de Royallieu success 2 weeks ago, while Antonia de Vega looked better than ever at Newmarket and is well worth another shot at this.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. DAME MALLIOT 2. WONDERFUL TONIGHT (FR) 3. ANTONIA DE VEGA (IRE)

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2019	Star Catcher 3-8-13	7-4f	John Gosden	Frankie Dettori	12
2018	Magical 3-8-13	5-1	Aidan O'Brien	Ryan Moore	11
2017	Hydrangea 3-8-13	4-1	Aidan O'Brien	Ryan Moore	10
2016	Journey 4-9-5	4-1	John Gosden	Frankie Dettori	13
2015	Simple Verse 3-8-12	5-1	Ralph Beckett	Andrea Atzeni	12

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

3.05

QUEEN ELIZABETH II STAKES (Sponsored by QIPCO) (Group 1) (1) 3yo+ £650,000 1m (1610 Metres) (Str.)

RACE 4



Going: **Soft (Heavy in places)**

The round course is a right-handed, galloping, triangular circuit of a mile and three quarters, with a run-in of two and a half furlongs. Ascot also has a straight mile course, which tends to drain better than the round course. There is also an inner Flat course which allows the option of switching the round course races on Champions Day in the event of unraceable ground. Generally speaking, prominent racers fare significantly better than those held up over five furlongs, but the opposite is true over seven furlongs/a mile, while on the round course those that race in the first half of the field over a mile and a quarter have a better record than those caught further back.

Draw: **N/A** Pace Information: **Strong**

1	12	CENTURY DREAM (IRE) (35) (CD, BF)	t		94
	7725-1515	6 9-4 59.0kg			
		Simon & Ed Crisford		<i>James Doyle</i>	
		Third in this in 2018. Disappointed last year but he's bounced back to very best in 2020, including easy win in soft-ground Goodwood Group 2. Went off too hard latest and likely still in form.			
2	2	CIRCUS MAXIMUS (IRE) (41) (CD)	b		96
	2714-1233	4 9-4 59.0kg			
		Aidan O'Brien, Ireland		<i>Ryan Moore</i>	
		Won at the Royal meeting here for second year in succession when edging out Terebellum in Queen Anne. Type to bounce back from below-par run in Moulin but he was behind Palace Pier at Deauville.			
3	11	DARK VISION (IRE) (36) (CD)			91
	30-212161	4 9-4 59.0kg			
		Mark Johnston <i>William Buick</i>			
		Hunt Cup winner over C&D in June and has added a Pontefract listed and Baden-Baden Group 2 to his tally since. This demands more, though, and his very best has come away from the mud.			
4	1	ESCOBAR (IRE) (14) (CD)	t		89
	1-0037364	6 9-4 59.0kg			
		David O'Meara <i>Adam Kirby</i>			
		Smart gelding who took the Balmoral over C&D (soft) on this card last year but there's little in his record to suggest he can play a prominent role at this much higher level.			
5	8	LANCASTER HOUSE (IRE) (35) (D)			89
	1117-120	4 9-4 59.0kg			
		Aidan O'Brien, Ireland		<i>Sean Levey</i>	
		Reappeared with Curragh Group 3 win in June. Just as good when chasing home Romanised in Group 2 there next time and best to ignore latest Leopardstown run as he went off too hard.			
6	13	LORD GLITTERS (FR) (28) (CD)			91
	5689-4332	7 9-4 59.0kg			
		David O'Meara <i>Daniel Tudhope</i>			
		Enjoyed his finest hour when taking Queen Anne over C&D in 2019. Also won Balmoral on this card in 2017 but he's more of a place than win contender judged on his efforts this year.			
7	10	ROSEMAN (IRE) (90) (D)			93
	31251-47	4 9-4 59.0kg			
		Roger Varian		<i>Andrea Atzeni</i>	
		Rounded off 3 -y-o season with heavy-ground listed win. Encouraging return when fourth in Queen Anne over C&D and given a bit of time since a disappointing run in France in July. Could bounce back.			
8	9	SIR BUSKER (IRE) (21) (CD)			93
	6-1129220	4 9-4 59.0kg			
		William Knight <i>Oisín Murphy</i>			
		Big improver this year, including Silver Hunt Cup win over C&D. However, he was firmly put in his place by Century Dream in Celebration Mile at Goodwood and bit of a surprise if he's up to this level.			
9	6	THE REVENANT (14) (D)	h		95
	11/11112-1	5 9-4 59.0kg			
		Francis-Henri Graffard, France <i>Pierre-Charles Boudot</i>			
		Classy colt who chased home King of Change in this 12 months ago. Not seen again taking Longchamp Group 2 14 days ago but that suggests he's every bit as good as last year. Likely to go well.			
10	4	MOLATHAM (35) (C)			91
	2114-153	3 9-1 57.6kg			
		Roger Varian		<i>Dane O'Neill</i>	
		Looked a very smart prospect when landing Jersey over 7f here in June. Bit underwhelming in France next time but back on track when 2 lengths third in Doncaster Group 2 since. Second attempt at 1m.			

11	14	NAZEEF (14) (CD)			96
	11-111391	4 9-1 57.6kg			
		John Gosden		<i>Jim Crowley</i>	
		Most likeable filly who landed Duke of Cambridge over C&D in June and has taken 1m record to 6-6 when adding Falmouth and Sun Chariot at Newmarket since. Testing ground fine. Should give good account.			
12	5	PALACE PIER (62) (C, D)			100
	11-111	3 9-1 57.6kg			
		John Gosden		<i>Frankie Dettori</i>	
		Unbeaten in 5 starts, taking step up to Group 1 level in stride when seeing off Pinatubo in St James's Palace here. Proved himself on testing ground when taking Jacques Le Marois at Deauville since.			
13	7	ROYAL DORNOCH (IRE) (35) (D)	t		87
	7151-0714	3 9-1 57.6kg			
		Aidan O'Brien, Ireland		<i>C. T. Keane</i>	
		Group 1 Falmouth winner at 2. Added a Curragh Group 3 in August but his latest fourth in Leopardstown Group 2 was no more than respectable. Others preferred.			
14	3	VERACIOUS (14) (D)	t		91
	434124-19	5 9-1 57.6kg			
		Sir Michael Stoute		<i>Tom Marquand</i>	
		Group 1 Falmouth winner last year when also fourth in this race. Returned with Haydock listed win in August but didn't see her race out on heavy ground in Sun Chariot at Newmarket since.			

14 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

10-11 Palace Pier, **6-1** The Revenant, **12-1** Circus Maximus, **12-1** Nazeef, **20-1** Century Dream, **25-1** Lord Glitters, **28-1** Molatham, **33-1** Roseman, **40-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

It's very hard to ignore the claims of PALACE PIER who has proved he handles this sort of ground and can make it 6-6 and provide John Gosden with a third winner in the last 4 years. Last year's second The Revenant looks set to play a prominent role again after his recent reappearance win, while Circus Maximus is held by Palace Pier on Deauville form but his 2-2 track record affords him respect.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. PALACE PIER 2. THE REVENANT 3. CIRCUS MAXIMUS (IRE)

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2019	King of Change 3-9-1	12-1	Richard Hannon	Sean Levey	16
2018	Roaring Lion 3-9-1	2-1f	John Gosden	Oisín Murphy	13
2017	Persuasive 4-9-1	8-1	John Gosden	Frankie Dettori	15
2016	Minding 3-8-12	7-4f	Aidan O'Brien	Ryan Moore	13
2015	Solow 5-9-4	11-10f	F. Head	Maxime Guyon	9

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

3.40

**QIPCO CHAMPION STAKES (Group 1) (1) 3yo+ £750,000
1m1f212y (2000 Metres)**

RACE 5



Going: **Soft (Heavy in places)**

The round course is a right-handed, galloping, triangular circuit of a mile and three quarters, with a run-in of two and a half furlongs. Ascot also has a straight mile course, which tends to drain better than the round course. There is also an inner Flat course which allows the option of switching the round course races on Champions Day in the event of unraceable ground. Generally speaking, prominent racers fare significantly better than those held up over five furlongs, but the opposite is true over seven furlongs/a mile, while on the round course those that race in the first half of the field over a mile and a quarter have a better record than those caught further back.

Draw: **Favours High** Pace Information: **Even**

1 11 ADDEYBB (IRE) (28) (CD) s **97**
1212-1121 6 9-5 | 59.4kg

William Haggas **Tom Marquand**
High-class sort who enjoyed a fantastic spell in Australia earlier this year, winning 2 Group 1s. Capitalised on drop in grade in listed event at Ayr last time and has a good record over C&D.

2 8 DESERT ENCOUNTER (IRE) (8) (C, D) h **89**
56732322 8 9-5 | 59.4kg

David Simcock **Jim Crowley**
Rattled off a 4-timer to end last season, culminating in Group 1 Canadian International 12 months ago. Hard to knock consistency at Group/listed level in recent months but this is a bit beyond him.

3 3 EXTRA ELUSIVE (28) (D, BF) **94**
52-652113 5 9-5 | 59.4kg

Roger Charlton **Hollie Doyle**
Has struck up an excellent partnership with Hollie Doyle, defying a penalty for his Rose of Lancaster success in the Winter Hill Stakes at Windsor in August. Not discredited last time, but needs more.

4 2 JAPAN (35) (C, D) **97**
1114-4335 4 9-5 | 59.4kg

Aidan O'Brien, Ireland **C. T. Keane**
Very smart 3-y-o, signing off that campaign by hitting the frame in the Arc. This season has been a let-down, though, and arrives with something to prove.

5 7 LORD NORTH (IRE) (59) (CD) **99**
82121-113 4 9-5 | 59.4kg

John Gosden **James Doyle**
Has progressed into a high-class performer, showing an impressive turn of foot to win Prince of Wales earlier this year and not discredited in the Juddmonte International subsequently. Solid claims.

6 10 SAN DONATO (IRE) (28) **91**
111/3-2683 4 9-5 | 59.4kg

Roger Varian **Andrea Atzeni**
Three wins over 6f at 2 yrs. Has looked as good as ever this term, but that still leaves him with a bit to find and he only just got home over this trip at Ayr behind Addeybb recently.

7 1 SKALLETI (FR) (14) (D) **93**
1111-3311 5 9-5 | 59.4kg

J. Reynier, France **Pierre-Charles Boudot**
Very smart type who arrives on the back of a convincing win in the Prix Dollar at Longchamp, so not written off for all this demands a career-best effort.

8 6 MAGICAL (IRE) (35) (CD) **100**
2151-1121 5 9-2 | 58.1kg

Aidan O'Brien, Ireland **Ryan Moore**
High-class mare who won 3 times at Group 1 level last year and has added another three to her CV this season, looking as good as ever. Splendidly consistent/genuine and will take all the beating.

9 9 MISHRIFF (IRE) (63) (D) **94**
431-2111 3 9-1 | 57.6kg

John Gosden **Frankie Dettori**
Has taken off this season and landed a hat-trick in most impressive fashion in the Prix Guillaume d'Ornano at Deauville a couple of months ago. Open to further progress and primed for a big run.

10 4 PYLEDRIVER (35) (C) **94**
417-21013 3 9-1 | 57.6kg

William Muir **Martin Dwyer**
Impressive winner of the King Edward VII at Royal Ascot and the Great Voltigeur, and ran with credit to finish third in the St Leger. Not ruled out back down in trip.

11 5 SERPENTINE (IRE) (34) (D) s **94**
0-5114 3 9-1 | 57.6kg

Aidan O'Brien, Ireland **William Buick**
Made all under a cracking ride in the Derby but hung right and not so good in the Grand Prix de Paris over at Longchamp last month. Still lightly raced and may get back on the up.

11 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

9-4 Magical, **4-1** Mishriff, **13-2** Addeybb, **17-2** Lord North, **10-1** Skalleti, **16-1** Japan, **18-1** Pyledriver, **22-1** Serpentine, **50-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

MAGICAL has the best form and hardly ever puts a foot wrong, so she's difficult to oppose as she bids to go back-to-back in this event. Lord North quickened up smartly to land the Prince of Wales in June, so he's feared along with Addeybb, who has a terrific record when there's cut in the ground.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. MAGICAL (IRE) 2. LORD NORTH (IRE) 3. ADDEYBB (IRE)

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2019	Magical 4-9-2	evsf	Aidan O'Brien	Donnacha O'Brien	9
2018	Cracksman 4-9-5	5-6f	John Gosden	Frankie Dettori	8
2017	Cracksman 3-9-1	13-8f	John Gosden	Frankie Dettori	10
2016	Almanzor 3-9-0	11-8f	Jean-Claude Rouget	Christophe Soumillon	10
2015	Fascinating Rock 4-9-5	10-1	D. K. Weld	Pat Smullen	13

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

4.15

BALMORAL HANDICAP (Sponsored by QIPCO) (2) 3yo+ £100,000 1m (1610 Metres) (Str.)

RACE 6



Going: **Soft (Heavy in places)**

The round course is a right-handed, galloping, triangular circuit of a mile and three quarters, with a run-in of two and a half furlongs. Ascot also has a straight mile course, which tends to drain better than the round course. There is also an inner Flat course which allows the option of switching the round course races on Champions Day in the event of unraceable ground. Generally speaking, prominent racers fare significantly better than those held up over five furlongs, but the opposite is true over seven furlongs/a mile, while on the round course those that race in the first half of the field over a mile and a quarter have a better record than those caught further back.

Draw: **N/A** Pace Information: **Very Strong**

- 1 17 RAISING SAND (122) (CD)** **97**
 6/431309-8 **8** 9-10 | 61.7kg
 Jamie Osborne *Saffie Osborne (7lb/3kg)*
 Course specialist who shaped better than the bare result in the C&D Hunt Cup at the Royal meeting when last seen in June. 1 lb lower now and not to be underestimated with conditions in his favour.
- 2 8 PRINCE EIJI (56) (C)** **94**
 5/43-44428 **4** 9-10 | 61.7kg
 Roger Varian *Andrea Atzeni*
 Low-mileage 4-y-o who hasn't scored since debut here in September 2018. Several smart performances to his name in the interim, but failed to fire at York latest and looks vulnerable on handicap bow.
- 3 13 KYNREN (IRE) (7) (C, D)** **94**
 3216-9050 **6** 9-8 | 60.8kg
 David Barron *Ben Curtis*
 Finished sixth in this race last year after landing the 7f Challenge Stakes, also here, 2 weeks earlier. Largely below par this season, though, and others make more appeal.
- 4 10 GRAIGNES (FR) (42)** **90**
 8525-0845 **4** 9-7 | 60.3kg
 George Baker *Nicola Currie*
 Smart performer for previous connections in France, but hasn't scaled those heights in 4 starts for this yard and opposable for all that his mark for this handicap debut is plausible.
- 5 21 KEATS (IRE) (6lb/3kg ex) (18) (D)** **90**
 12134021 **3** 9-7 | 60.3kg
 Aidan O'Brien, Ireland *Ryan Moore*
 Notched third success, and produced a career-best in the process, when landing a listed race at Cork (8.2f, good) last time. However, more on his plate back in a handicap under a penalty.
- 6 20 ORBAAN (43) (D)** **97**
 24-814774 **5** 9-6 | 59.9kg
 David O'Meara *Daniel Tudhope*
 Off the mark for this yard in July and generally acquitted himself well since, 3 lengths fourth to Tempus over C&D latest. Each-way shout for yard that has won 2 of the last 3 renewals of this race.
- 7 9 BELL ROCK (21) (D)** **98**
 1/606-1633 **4** 9-6 | 59.9kg
 Andrew Balding *Oisin Murphy*
 Hasn't done a great deal wrong in big-field handicaps following winning reappearance at Newmarket. Third in 27-runner Cambridgeshire there last time and claims off same mark in first-time cheekpieces.
- 8 7 SOLID STONE (IRE) (21) (D)** **97**
 0223-1031 **4** 9-6 | 59.9kg
 Sir Michael Stoute *Hollie Doyle*
 Added to Sandown reappearance success when narrowly landing a 1¼m Chelmsford handicap 3 weeks ago. Nudged up just 2 lb and drop back in trip shouldn't be an issue in what will be a strongly-run race.
- 9 4 NJORD (IRE) (25) (D, BF)** **96**
 11-012254 **4** 9-5 | 59.4kg
 Mrs J. Harrington, Ireland *Tom Marquand*
 Decisive winner at the Curragh in June and solid fifth in the Irish Cambridgeshire there on penultimate start. Not seen to best effect in listed company next time and needs considering.
- 10 1 SYMBOLIZE (IRE) (29)** **90**
 145-34328 **3** 9-4 | 59.0kg
 Andrew Balding *David Probert*
 Resumed with good third in 7f Jersey Stakes at the Royal meeting. Has failed to match that form in 4 subsequent starts, though, and opposable up in trip on this handicap debut.

- 11 2 GREENSIDE (7) (D)** **93**
 3452-7136 **9** 9-4 | 59.0kg
 Henry Candy *Marco Ghiani (5lb/2kg)*
 Just touched off by Kynren in the 7f Challenge Stakes here last October. Resumed winning ways at Haydock in July and each-way chance back up in trip having found 6f too sharp at York last weekend.
- 12 12 RAAKIB ALHAWA (IRE) (90) (D)** **95**
 10/7515-99 **4** 9-3 | 58.5kg
 David Simcock *Stevie Donohoe*
 Added to 2-y-o debut success when bagging a 5-runner listed event at Windsor (11.4f) last term. However, well held both starts this season and fair bit to prove back down in trip on this handicap bow.
- 13 22 KING OTTOKAR (FR) (35)** **98**
 1435-5955 **4** 9-3 | 58.5kg
 Charlie Fellowes *James Doyle*
 Smart form in 2019 and big step back in right direction when fifth on debut handicap at Doncaster (1m, good to firm) last time. 2 lb lower now and very much one to consider with conditions no problem.
- 14 3 ROPEY GUEST (51)** **87**
 35332-431 **3** 9-3 | 58.5kg
 George Margaron *Tom Queally*
 In excellent form since the restart, and readily landed the odds in 7f minor event at Chelmsford last time. However, faces a stiff task on this handicap bow off what looks a tough opening mark.
- 15 23 BLUE MIST (42) (CD, BF)** **94**
 6036-2919 **5** 9-3 | 58.5kg
 Roger Charlton *William Buick*
 Finally landed the big pot he deserved in the International Stakes here (7f, good to firm) in July. Below par back at this course next time, though, and return to this trip poses a serious question.
- 16 5 RAAEQ (IRE) (6lb/3kg ex) (15) (C, D)** **100**
 21-211 **3** 9-3 | 58.5kg
 Brian Meehan *Jim Crowley*
 Progressive colt who built on last month's Sandown success when landing a 7f handicap in good style here (good to soft) recently. Potentially well-in under a penalty and he's high on the shortlist.
- 17 6 TEMPUS (21) (CD, BF)** **96**
 2/114-116 **4** 9-2 | 58.1kg
 Roger Charlton *Jason Watson*
 Much improved again in 1m handicaps this year, awarded Newbury race on return before easily landing a gamble over this C&D. Respectable sixth in 9f Cambridgeshire last time and he needs considering.
- 18 14 RIVER NYMPH (62) (C)** **99**
 321-3811 **3** 9-1 | 57.6kg
 Clive Cox *Adam Kirby*
 Very much on the up, landing 7f handicaps here (good) and at Newbury (good to soft) during the summer. Up 11 lb for latest success and this is tougher, but he may well have more to offer.
- 19 11 HORTZADAR (8) (D)** **94**
 01d533119 **5** 9-1 | 57.6kg
 David O'Meara *Jamie Spencer*
 Back-to-back winner at Ripon and Goodwood in August/September. Trip/ground no problem but this career-high mark proved beyond him at York last time, for all that he wasn't disgraced there.
- 20 16 ALTERNATIVE FACT (8) (D)** **96**
 1-6312026 **5** 9-0 | 57.2kg
 Ed Dunlop *Frankie Dettori*
 Successful at Haydock in July and has returned from a 2-month break with a couple of decent efforts, latterly sixth in a big-field York handicap (7.9f, soft). Place possibilities with Dettori aboard.

RESERVES

- 21 15 BEAR FORCE ONE (21) (D)** **94**
 112-83130 **4** 9-0 | 57.2kg
 Roger Teal *Reserve*
 Back on song in first-time cheekpieces when striking at Newmarket in July. Limitations seemingly exposed in the Cambridgeshire last time, though, and looks vulnerable off this mark. RESERVE.

4.15**BALMORAL HANDICAP (Sponsored by QIPCO) (2) 3yo+
£100,000 1m (1610 Metres) (Str.)**

RACE 6

Racing TVi**22 18 REVICH (IRE) (42) (D)** **94**
873-65115 **4** 9-0 | 57.2kg

Richard Spencer

Silvestre De Sousa

Racked up back-to-back 7f wins at Chester in August before good fifth of 16 in handicap here last month. 1 lb lower now and each-way claims if making the cut. RESERVE.

RESERVES**23 19 HARTSWOOD (57) (D)** **97**
5216-312 **3** 8-10 | 55.3kg

Richard Fahey

Reserve

Progressive 3-y-o, posting fine efforts in defeat in competitive York handicaps either side of winning one in July. Likely he has more to offer and claims if he gets a run. RESERVE.

21 DECLARED RUNNERS (2 RESERVES)

BETTING FORECAST:**11-2** Raaeq, **8-1** Tempus, **11-1** King Ottokar, **12-1** Keats, **14-1** River Nymph, **14-1** Njord, **16-1** Bell Rock, **16-1** Alternative Fact, **18-1** Solid Stone, **20-1** Raising Sand, **22-1** Orbaan, **22-1** Blue Mist, **28-1** Kynren, **28-1** Greenside, **33-1** Prince Eiji, **40-1** bar**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

BELL ROCK continues to give a good account and can race from the same mark as when finishing third in the Cambridgeshire. He should be suited by a stiff test at this trip and makes plenty of appeal in a typically competitive renewal. Recent course winner Raaeq, who is potentially well-in under a penalty, and Irish raider Njord head the huge list of dangers.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**1. BELL ROCK 2. RAAEQ (IRE) 3. NJORD (IRE)****WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2019	Escobar 5-9-6	16-1	David O'Meara	Adam Kirby	20
2018	Sharja Bridge 4-9-5	8-1	Roger Varian	James Doyle	20
2017	Lord Glitters 4-9-3	3-1f	David O'Meara	Daniel Tudhope	20
2016	Yuften 5-9-1	12-1	Roger Charlton	Andrea Atzeni	19
2015	Musaddas 5-8-7	7-1	Saeed bin Suroor	Edward Greatrex (5)	20

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race